

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Bushell et al.

Examiner:

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed: December 21, 2001

Date: December 21, 2001

For: LOCKABLE NUT SYSTEM

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

This invention relates to a lockable nut system for use with threaded steel bar which includes a screw threaded nut for engagement with the threaded steel bar and a locking member which is slidably engageable with the bar. The locking member is adapted to resist rotation about the bar and is also axially engageable with the nut to prevent rotation of the nut. The locking member has one or more fingers to engage the nut with an end of the finger being displaced to engage the nut as a result of deformation of a finger actuating tab or a dished body of the locking member. The locking member may engage the bar by displacement of an end of at least one tongue as a result of deformation of a tongue actuating tab during compression between the nut and a second structure.

As authorized and encouraged under 37 C.F.R. §1.197-1.99, Applicant hereby cites as a means of complying with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the following patents and/or documents, copies enclosed, which the Examiner should consider with respect to the above-identified United States Patent Application.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS			
Patent/Document No.	Publication Date	Country	Inventor/Owner
03268445	30-03-1993	Japan	Kijima Hikojiro
06122909	19-12-1995	Japan	Tsuda Masaru

A copy of each publication is included for the express purpose of providing the Patent and Trademark Office with an ample opportunity to evaluate the same and to arrive at an

independent assessment of its materiality, if any, with regard to the examination of the application.

In reviewing the enclosed copies of the above publications, the Examiner is requested to ignore any underscoring or highlighting which may appear because such markings may or may not have any relationship to the subject matter of the above-identified application. The copy being submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement is the best copy available at this time.

An examination of the present application considering the above documents is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCKINGHAM, DOOLITTLE & BURROUGHS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David P. Dureska", written over a horizontal line.

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Attorney Docket No: SPEEDY-A (51373-4)

«CT2:310498_1»